



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

• Tadashi ISHIKAWA et al.

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April 13, 2006

For

LARGE-HEAT-INPUT BUTT WELDED JOINTS

HAVING EXCELLENT BRITTLE FRACTURE

RESISTANCE

Examiner

Jason L. Savage

Group Art Unit

1794

Confirmation No.

9443

Customer No.

26646

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

July 29

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 29, 2009, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.